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Attn: Examiner David J. Parsley	(703) 872-9306	USPTO	

FROM: Mark E. Stallion**DIRECT DIAL:** (314) 345-6223**DIRECT FAX:** (314) 345-6323**OPERATOR:** Lisa Askew**EXT. NO.:** 6643**BILLING CODE:** 717119-483**TOTAL # OF PAGES:** 7**MESSAGE:** Please see the attached.

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STI 001-1118433-1

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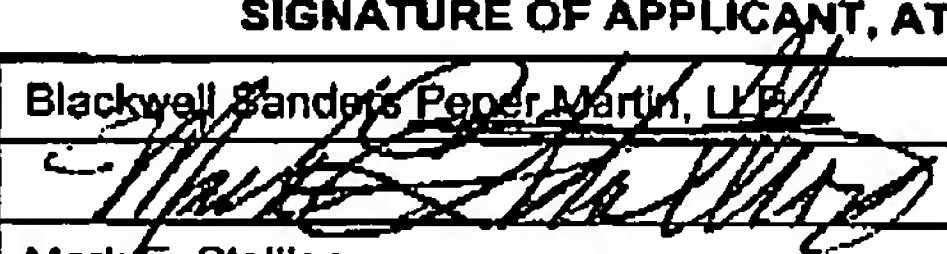
PTO/SB/21 (03-04)


Approved for use through 7/31/2005. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/709,582	
	Filing Date	May 14, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Johnson, John E.	
	Art Unit	3643	
	Examiner Name	PARSLEY, DAVID J	
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	717119.483

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication TC	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)	
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information	
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below);	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53			
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Firm Name	Blackwell Sanders Pepper Martin, LLP		
Signature			
Printed Name	Mark E. Stallon		
Date	Jan 03, 2005	Reg. No.	46,132

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO to Group Art Unit 3643 at facsimile number 703-872-9306 or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Signature			
Typed or printed name	Lisa Askew	Date	January 3, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

STLD01-1118414-1

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PATENT
717119-483

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: John E. Johnson	:	Examiner: David J. Parsley
Serial No.: 10/709,582	:	Group Art Unit: 3643
Filed: May 14, 2004	:	Attorney Docket No.: 717119-483
For: Automated Classifier and Meat Cut Fat Trimming Method and Apparatus	:	Customer No.: 027128
Last Office Action: November 01, 2004	:	Confirmation No.: 3581

AMENDMENT RESPONSIVE TO EX PARTE QUAYLE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2004, please amend the above-identified application in accordance with the amendments and remarks as set forth herein responsive to the Ex Parte Quayle action.

INTRODUCTION

The Examiner issued an Ex Parte Quayle action noting that the Abstract was too long and further noted two typographical errors. The application has been amended herein to correct these errors. The applicant respectfully asserts that the claims are in condition for allowance. Please enter the amendments as indicated herein.